

**DX Advisory Committee Report
Document # 23**

January 2025

**Submitted by:
Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
Chairman, DX Advisory Committee**

Prepared and submitted by Chris Shalvoy, K2CS - Chairman
Date: 31 December 2024

Two changes have occurred since my last report regarding DXAC representation.

A 36-year member of the DXAC, Gary Dixon (K4MQG) had recently stepped down from his duties and the Roanoke Division appointed Lou Dietrich (N2TU) as his replacement. Lou brings a vast amount of expertise to the DXAC and the committee is excited to welcome him to the group.

Ted Pauck (K8NA) became an SK on 23 October and Stan Arnett (AC8W) has assumed his position representing the Great Lakes Division. Stan has previously attended several DXAC meetings, and the group welcomes his participation as well.

The DXCC community also lost another dedicated member when Robert Beatty (W4VQ) became an SK on 18 October. Robert was instrumental in the minimum size rule after the inclusion of Scarborough Reef, BS7H.

The DXAC has convened (via Zoom) 2 times since our last report, 2 October and 12 December 2024. These meetings were in preparation for an undertaking the DXAC has deemed "DXCC 2025". Additional dates have been planned (thru Dayton) to continue this discussion, they are as follows:

9 & 30 January
20 February
13 March
3 & 24 April

The October meeting discussed several recent correspondences received by members of the DXAC which included licensing by RIB (Rig in a Box) operators, the country status of Chagos Island/Mauritius Island and unattended operation (mainly involving FT8). Granted, some of these issues do not necessarily involve the validity of an DXCC entity but the group as a whole feels it important to contemplate how these situations may affect the DXCC program.

The December 12 meeting specifically polled attending members on which items they felt were most important to discuss in regard to the current DXCC rules. All but 3 members attended the session (one being excused for his part in a DXpedition).

Items that will be specifically discussed in future meetings include:

- Remote operation - RIB and licensing (who would enforce?)
- Entity inactivity or deletion criteria
- Continued DXCC program integrity (do not lower the standards - program has stood the "test of time")
- Assist Governmental Agencies in rules regarding entity activations
- Honor Role requirements review
- Country (entity) DXCC requirement guidelines

Each session will focus on one specific item, DX clubs and other interested parties will be notified for comment on the issues the committee contemplates. This will allow the entire DXCC community a voice in future recommendations.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
Chairman, ARRL DX Advisory Committee

DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 2024

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Addendum – Document #23 – DXAC Report 10 January 2025

DXAC (Zoom) meeting: Thursday 9 January 2025 – 20:30 EDT

Attendees: K2CS, K9EL, W0VTT, N4JQQ, AC8W, K2XA, NI0G, K7BTW, N6PSE, N2TU, K8ZTT, K5TF, N6QQ, N5OK, VE1JS, K9LA, AC0W

Discussion: RIB (Rig in a Box) and licensing thereof.

Background: The DXAC has embarked on a review of current DXCC rules and issues brought forth by its members and others in the DX community. After its 12 December 2024 session, it was determined that RIB and remote operation would be the topic of discussion for the 9 January 2025 meeting.

Each member was asked to comment on the following:

- 1) Do you feel RIB is in the current spirit of the DXCC rules.
- 2) If not, what if any changes would you recommend to make it so.
- 3) Do you feel the “honor” system is enough to curb illegal operation.
- 4) Other comments, suggestions, or questions.

It was overwhelmingly felt that RIB is already here and in the spirit of the hobby, pushing current technology. Specific concerns revolved around licensing qualifications and enforcement. Mention was made of the cost and danger of gaining access to specific entities as well as the unavailability of locations regarding Fish and Wildlife rules and other restrictions. It was noted that various entities may have different licensing requirements or none at all regarding remote operation. Reference was made to DXCC rules 1-8 and 1-9 and was felt they pertained to the station applying for DXCC. We also looked at the current IOTA rules for their interpretation.

Final determination and recommendations:

- 1) RIB is an acceptable means of communication within the current DXCC rules.
- 2) Specific requirements should be spelled out with respect to possible differences in entity licensing, much along the lines of guidance given regarding CEPT, individual license or other applications while operating in that country.
- 3) Fully understand the specific requirements placed on RIB operation and obtain feedback after the DXpedition is complete if requested.

We hope these findings and recommendations assist in fully defining RIB while protecting the integrity and spirit of the current DXCC program.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
Chairman, DX Advisory Committee